

Curriculum Unit
Title

Waste: What Do We Do with It?

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KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.

The most common methods of waste removal are municipal solid waste landfills, combustion sites, and composting. There is no one method that is best, many states in the United States use a combination of methods.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT

What is waste? What are the pros and cons of municipal solid waste landfills? What are the pros and cons of incinerator facilities? What is composting? How is composting different than a landfill? What should we do with our waste?

CONCEPT A

Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

CONCEPT B

Incinerators/Combustion Sites

CONCEPT C

Composting

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A

What is waste? What are the pros and cons of municipal solid waste landfills?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B

What are the pros and cons of incinerator facilities?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C

What is composting? How is composting different than a landfill?

VOCABULARY A

Environmental protection agency, municipal solid waste (MSW), bacteria, sanitation, municipal solid waste landfill, leachates

VOCABULARY B

Mass combustion/incineration

VOCABULARY C

Compost

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIAL/TEXT/FILM/RESOURCES

Environmental Protection Agency website

Where Do Garbage Trucks Go? And Other Questions About Trash and Recycling (children's book)